

## CLAIMS

1. A content reproduction apparatus which reproduces digital contents, comprising:

a secret information storage unit operable to hold secret information specific to the content reproduction apparatus in a manner which does not allow access from outside the content reproduction apparatus;

an index information storage unit operable to hold index information which is in a one-to-one association with the secret information;

an instruction receiving unit operable to receive an instruction to output the index information; and

an index information output unit operable to output the index information stored in the index information storage unit to outside based on the instruction.

2. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the index information stored in the index information storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined cryptographic method, and

the index information output unit includes:

a decryption unit operable to decrypt, based on the instruction, the encrypted index information stored in the index information storage unit according to the predetermined cryptographic method; and

an output unit operable to output the index information decrypted by the decryption unit to outside.

3. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the index information stored in the index information storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined cryptographic method, and

the index information output unit outputs, based on the instruction, the encrypted index information stored in the index information storage unit to outside.

- 5 4. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising

an authentication data storage unit operable to hold authentication data that is obtained by performing a predetermined conversion on the index information.

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5. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the instruction receiving unit reads a program for executing the instruction from a removable recording medium on which the program is recorded, and

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the index information output unit outputs the index information stored in the index information storage unit to outside, by executing the read program.

6. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 5,

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wherein on the recording medium, a unique identification number is recorded,

the instruction receiving unit reads the program and the identification number from the removable recording medium on which the program is recorded, and

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the index information output unit outputs, to outside, the index information stored in the index information storage unit, by executing the read program only when the identification number satisfies a predetermined condition.

- 30 7. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein the instruction receiving unit is a communication terminal connected to a computer network.

8. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,  
wherein the instruction receiving unit is a debug terminal  
used for connecting a debug apparatus to the content reproduction  
apparatus, the debug apparatus being used during development of  
5 the content reproduction apparatus.

9. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 1,  
further comprising  
a display unit operable to display the index information.

10. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 9,  
wherein the index information stored in the index information  
storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined  
cryptographic method, and  
15 the display unit displays the encrypted index information.

11. A content reproduction apparatus which reproduces digital  
contents, comprising:

a secret information storage unit operable to hold secret  
20 information specific to the content reproduction apparatus in a  
manner which does not allow access from outside the content  
reproduction apparatus;

an index information storage unit operable to hold index  
information which is in a one-to-one association with the secret  
25 information; and

a display unit operable to display the index information.

12. The content reproduction apparatus according to Claim 11,  
wherein the index information stored in the index information  
30 storage unit is encrypted according to a predetermined  
cryptographic method, and

a display unit displays the encrypted index information.

13. A content reproduction system which reproduces digital contents, comprising:

a content reproduction apparatus which reproduces the digital contents; and

5 a user authentication server which performs user authentication,

wherein the content reproduction apparatus includes:

a secret information storage unit operable to hold secret information specific to the content reproduction apparatus in a  
10 manner which does not allow access from outside of the content reproduction apparatus;

an index information storage unit operable to hold index information which is in a one-to-one association with the secret information;

15 a user identification information transmission unit operable to transmit user identification information to the user authentication server;

an instruction receiving unit operable to receive an instruction to output the index information; and

20 an index information output unit operable to output, based on the instruction, the index information stored in the index information storage unit,

the user authentication server includes:

a user authentication unit operable to perform user  
25 authentication based on the user identification information received from the content reproduction apparatus; and

an instruction transmission unit operable to transmit an instruction to output the index information to the content reproduction apparatus, based on a result of the authentication  
30 performed by the user authentication unit.

14. An index information output method for outputting index

information which is in a one-to-one association with secret information specific to a content reproduction apparatus, and is stored in the content reproduction apparatus which reproduces digital contents, the method comprising:

- 5           receiving an instruction to output the index information; and  
          outputting the index information to outside the content reproduction apparatus based on the instruction.

15.   A program for outputting index information which is in a  
10 one-to-one association with secret information specific to a content reproduction apparatus, and is stored in the content reproduction apparatus which reproduces digital contents, the program causing a computer to execute:

- receiving an instruction to output the index information; and  
15           outputting the index information to outside the content reproduction apparatus based on the instruction.

16.   A computer readable recording medium on which a program is recorded, the program being for outputting index information which  
20 is in a one-to-one association with secret information specific to a content reproduction apparatus, and is stored in the content reproduction apparatus which reproduces digital contents, the program causing a computer to execute:

- receiving an instruction to output the index information; and  
25           outputting the index information to outside the content reproduction apparatus based on the instruction.